

M 2482

Sunday Lunch Mr Nyland's Birthday 10-27-74

Mr Nyland: I hope that all of you have profited by ^{the} let's call it, a semi-Dutch meal. It's very interesting that you thought about it. It is what is called in Dutch an ^{Indische} RIJKS tafel, ^{Tafel} means table when you sit at the table and the main dish is rice. And together with that, all kind of spices, condiments and things of that kind which ^{are} partly tropical and of course you couldn't obtain. You have left out one particular thing which is red pepper.. But otherwise I think it is a very good ~~imitation~~ imitation ^{sight-few} and I would almost say, after ~~4~~ years, it makes me feel at home.

But you see apparently it is a very special occasion.

I almost forgot it until I got to this room and then everybody gets up. Well then I sit down and there's a ^{little} container with armanac, also very special ~~item~~ and then another kind of dessert. Thank you all very much.

It's very lovely. I really don't know why you do it.

You see I was thinking this morning ... Here we are with quite a number of people, you come in, there is a certain atmosphere. You remember, you sit down, next to you are two neighbors. Opposite you are some people. What is your feeling about them? That is, include everyone in this group having certain feelings or reactions to the people who are next door to him. What is the reaction on yourself if you could describe it. Is it friendship? Is it the wish for understanding? Is it a wish for communication? Is it a wish to create an atmosphere in which you take in your neighbors? Or do you stay with in yourself in the way you always have been, in the ^{what} I said last night, in the continued state of unconsciousness? And of course it must occur to you every once and a while that you are here especially today for a certain purpose. Of course I know it, I happen to be the cause of it.

At the same time we all celebrate.. What do we really celebrate
 what is it that brings you here? You see I hope it is not me.
 I've said it before that gradually I will efface myself. I don't
 believe in the continuation of a group remaining dependant on a
 person who happens to teach a little bit about esoteric knowledge
 and communicates ~~that~~^{it} in a certain form which he hopes will be clear
 and useful. That has to become more and more your own acceptance
 of that ^{NO CAPS} WHAT YOU WISH TO TAKE ~~as~~ as food [✓] that you really want
 to use that for your own growth. And I've said before that that
 what takes place in the digesting and that what then you have as
 experience ~~as~~ of truth will become your teacher, ~~and~~ thank God
 you can take that always with you. ~~S~~

That is the main point so that you are not dependent neither
 on books nor atmosphere, nor a barn, Not any one person in particular.
 That you are with yourself and your own treasure, that you have
 built this treasure ~~in~~ in the heaven of your own world. That is why
 this kind of preparation ~~of~~ is really essential for the continuation
~~xxxxxx~~ of your own life where ever it now may be, on earth or later
 where ever your soul may rest. And perhaps not rest, perhaps
 continuously wishing to understand more and more in order to eliminate
 that which is now ignorance and then gradually finding a proper
 place some where like many spiritual beings are now teaching
 in some way or other and even, if they wish, can communicate with
 many of us.

I think about that several times. Who will I meet when
 I die? Who will ^I then try to remember when my spirit or the
 beginning of my soul will be some where? Can I then come back?
 Can I remember this barn? It's a question to what extent one believes
 in the possibility of remaining helpful and it is always a problem

of trying to be helpful now to the extent that one is allowed to be that because also I say ~~to~~ ^{This} allowance that is in accordance with ~~the law that~~ ^{which} governs each person trying to find out what that law is, what the different laws are as it were ~~is~~ ^{is} that ~~what~~ ^A governs the periphery and the essence and the essential essence of a being. What is it that we really search for when we want to find out the value of our lives and if we can honestly believe in the possibility of growing and understanding what can make a change for oneself and that what we can dispense with and after some time building that which could be ^{the} edifice or the container of your most cherished wish of an emotional state of love of God.

~~(H)~~ You see I don't know very much about those things, but having been contact in addition with different people also stirring and the sincerity of some of those questions which do come up, I think I've profited a great deal by this month of October. As I said last night it is not finished as yet and we still have to take care of several people ^{who} for some reason or other did not have a small group, ^{such} I think to their detriment. I wish ^{ed} many times that a small group could be considered and understood by all of us as a very good means to make work much more real particularly when ^{then} in such a little surrounding or really ^{an} atmosphere which ^{may} be quite large but made up with a few people who could trust each other. that you then could talk freely and talk ^{that} really about that what mattered. If you haven't done it, ^{it's} probably because you don't understand those things ^{as} yet. When I ask you where are your thoughts ^{and} your feelings when you sit down you don't even consider that sometimes important. You create an atmosphere around you. So does everybody. When you are sensitive, ~~sometimes~~ you will feel it, ~~you~~ you will use it sometimes as a language

with that
 an unknown word — something which you cannot as yet distinguish
 from ordinary language and which requires a sensitivity of
 an emotional kind to be able to communicate and and to be
 affected by it and then this question of sensitivity starts to
 count tremendously. How can you learn at the present time, living
 here and living with each other and seeing each other every
 once ⁱⁿ a while and working together physically and having to
 do ~~various~~^{project} things together as a project and an aim which you then
 want to strive for. What can you be at such a time when you happen
 to think about it? Can you at the present time as it were ask
 your 'I' to tell you something about your inner life? Can you really
 arrange for an interview with God? Do you dare to find out what His
 telephone number is? Can you expect Him, when you go outside
 of this barn, that we can see ^{you?} How much contact do you really
 wish to make with the spiritual world of yourself, ^{so that} you become
 acquainted with that, ^{of that} what is taking place in this spirituality,
 in this where you feel very strange in the beginning because you
 have not made any particular adjustment towards it because, partly
 you ^{had} fear to do it, partly because you were too cozy in what
 you now call your world. The extension of your world is absolutely
 a requirement for meeting death. And to the extent that you are
 able to that extent ~~xxxx~~ will it be a smooth entrance into some
 other kind of a world without having any further obstacles. You
 must now clear the obstacles away; the prejudices you do have,
 the influences of others on you which ~~create~~ immediately a reaction
 many times based on ~~old~~ associations which of course are already
 in your feelings and in your head and ~~mix~~ with which you then
 start to compare and you are not neutral any more. You see, what
 is important is the realization that the only time when you get

accurate knowledge of yourself is at the time when it actually happens. It never will give you the real knowledge of what you were by thinking about the past and your experiences you have had. Because, in the first place, when you did experience them, they were not truthful because they were too subjective, sometimes they were superficial; sometimes deeper; sometimes like a shock, But at the time when you recorded them they were recorded in a subjective surrounding and perhaps interpreted, And perhaps adjusted in order to be able to live with them. Thinking about the past is really of very little help and even if your memory is good and you bring back and recall that what you have been it cannot as yet be compared to one moment of exactness of knowledge which you receive when you wake up simultaneously to that what you are.

And that is why this question of an acquisition of knowledge now is important and that now you ought to know what you are in relation to other people who are sitting around you and with whom you have some kind of communication not by means of words, but by means of looking through your eyes, by means of a sensitivity of that what is around you ^{which} you know and looking at each other that then perhaps there is an exchange. To what extent can you remain responsible for such an exchange if you intend to become responsible, And to what extent is it just ordinary mechanical way of seeing and talking to each other.

I said yesterday, we sleep-walk and we sleep-talk. We sit, we are asleep. A great deal of this meal was but continued by sleeping as you came in, as you still sit, ^{as} you still not remember, your self. It is difficult, It is difficult even to be reminded. And start to believe that. I'm not asking at all and I'm not suggesting that you should believe it because I happen to talk about it.

That what each one of us has to do is to develop his own conscience and live in accordance with his own truth and to see that that what he records can be closer to the universal value of that what is life within each person realizing that the form in which it ~~is~~ ^a is, is no prevention from actually seeing ^a the reality of ~~is~~ what you actually are.

You see I hope that you will remember this birthday that it will be gradually an understanding ~~that~~ ^{of} the place we all have in relation to our own work and that perhaps you could be stimulated to see that that becomes much more of a reality of actually coming to grips, as it were, with your inner life. Trying to develop that without disturbing ^{too much} of the outer appearance and your forms of behavior. You just be what you are, keep on accepting that and gradually it will dawn on anyone who develops that there is something that takes the upper hand, then from that standpoint of increased wisdom of a different kind which belongs to your inner ^{life} as it will develop, like a Kesdjanian body will start in time to talk ^{when} and the SOLA ST of that development has been reached. Because the SOL and this ^{of} ~~in~~ those two notes they tell one of the possibility of an existence ~~of a spiritual life~~ with richer light quite different from ~~this~~ material form; And after then having received information of that kind, you digest it when you reach ~~85~~ which I always say is the silence necessary for that kind of contemplation.

What you must learn is not to ask too many questions. You just work, you just gather knowledge. You gather knowledge like you gather a harvest of that what has been growing within you. You hope that it will be like grain, fruitful that it can be used for the making of phosphorus which then you can eat and becomes manna from heaven. That after all is the way one ought to look at ones life

and trying to understand it, even young as many of us still are, that you continue to keep that particular attitude ready; that it is available in your mind when you wish to think about that and the value of your mental processes and the thinking which will help you to gradually go over into an awareness, a realization of your own existence, totally, and also at the same time trying to understand the purpose of why you are living here on this earth.

If we can have a aim for ourselves for this group, ~~if we~~ ^{that} ~~experience~~, If we can remember in that way what is now being experienced as a large group of people sitting ^{quiet} and listening to a few words, ~~on the part~~ of myself, trying to be honest about what I think is really necessary for each person and only daring to make a suggestion not necessarily to be followed but only, you might say, to be listened to. Take it in as well as you can because it comes from me from the right place, I hope it reaches you in a place where you wish to receive it. I talk about your life, I talk about ~~your~~ potentiality. I talk about the God of every one of us, I talk many times as if Gurdjieff would remind me saying, "Don't forget there is Work to be done." ^{SIEFF} ~~in the vineyard~~ of the Lord. Work for an understanding of Esoteric Christianity, of that what is a religion which can become such a force in ones life that it starts to direct all actions, all thoughts, and all feelings and make them all conform, concentrating as it were, like a triangle folding up to become one point, like the three centers combining in one harmonious entity so that the level of ones being reaches out to that what is still in space somewhere in the ~~heat~~ or ~~where~~ ever the universe happens to exist. Of course it exists now. It is here, this omnipresence, this knowledge which will come is here already. This force with which you are motivated is also here at this moment everywhere and always wherever one goes.

You take with you that as a knowledge-as an potentail force
as that what will give you ultimately an insight into the reality
above all things, ~~grateful~~^{to} to God who allows it, ~~thankful~~^t to
Gurdjieff who helped to ~~tell~~ us about it.

Thank you all very much, I would say, for what you mean to
me.

^{no paragraph} Thank you all for giving me an opportunity to say what
I really feel down in my own heart. You know I love you.

To Gurdjieff.

So Peter will you play a little bit?

(Tape ends)